





## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Friday, 21st September.  
Per steamship "Cathay" sailed on the 12th September.—For London—34,986 lbs. congo 100,044 lbs. iron, copper, brass, 3,024 lbs. sheeted iron, 12 bags fine silk, 17 bags coarse silk, 43 cases silk, 100 boxes, 43 necktie sundries. For France—43 bags fine silk, and 29 cases silk piece goods. From Foochow for France—336 packages tea. From Canton for New York—17 cases silk goods.

## OPUM.

Quotations are—  
New Malwa ..... 3500 per picul, allow. of 1 [1 catty.  
Old Malwa ..... 3500 per picul, allow. of 1 [1 catty.  
Older Malwa ..... 3500 to 3600 per picul, [allow. up to 1 catty.  
Patna (New) ..... 3500 per cwt.  
Patna (Old) ..... 345 ..... 3524 ..... 32

## EXCHANGE.

On LONDON—  
Telegraphic Transfer ..... 311  
Bank Bills, 1 month ..... 311  
Bank Bills, 30 days' sight ..... 314  
Bank Bills, 6 months' sight ..... 314  
Credits, at 4 months' sight ..... 314  
Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight ..... 32

On PARIS—  
Bank Bills, on demand ..... 3.92  
Credits, at 4 months' sight ..... 4.00

On NEW YORK—  
Bank Bills, on demand ..... 754  
Credits, 60 days' sight ..... 77

On BOMBAY—  
Telegraphic Transfer ..... 224

On CALCUTTA—  
Telegraphic Transfer ..... 224

On SHANGHAI—  
Bank, at sight ..... 724

Private Bills, 30 days' sight ..... 724

## SHARES.

Quotations are—  
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares—153 per cent, premium.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited—\$90 per share.

China Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—\$68 per share, ex div. buyers.

North China Insurance—Tls. 235 per share.

Yangtze Insurance Association—Tls. 274 per share.

Chinah Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 175 per share, no tax.

On The Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 148 per share.

Canton Insurance Office, Limited—\$97 per share, buyers.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited—\$13.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—\$120 per cent, premium.

Hongkong, Canton, and Mace Steamboat Co.'s Shares—\$120 per cent, premium.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s Shares—20 per cent discount.

China and Manilla Steamship Company, Limited—\$120 per share.

Douglas Steamship Company, Limited—\$35 per share.

Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—\$135 per share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—\$170 per share.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$168 per share, sellers.

Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$72 per share, buyers.

Shantung Fire Insurance Company, Limited—\$13.

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## COLONEL QUARITCH, V.C.

A TALE OF COUNTRY LIFE.

BY H. RIDER HAGGARD,  
AUTHOR OF "KING SOLOMON'S MINES,"  
"ALLAN QUATERMAINE'S JES,"  
"SHE," &c.

[Now First Published.]

## CHAPTER XIX.

IN PAVER.

At last she spoke, apparently with a great effort.

"It is stifling in here," she said, "let us go out, and she rose, took up a shawl that lay beside her on a chair, and stepped through the French window into the garden. It was a lovely autumn night and the air was still and death, with just a faint fragrance of the earth.

Ida drew the shawl over her shoulders and, followed by Harold, walked on through the garden, till she came to the edge of the meadow, where there was a seat. Here she sat down and fixed her eyes upon the heavy battlements of the gateway.

Harold looked at her and felt that if he had anything to say the time had come for him to say it, and that he might be able to listen and understand. So he began again, and told her that he loved her dearly. "I am some seventeen years older than you," he went on, "and I suppose that the most active part of my life lies in the past; and I don't know if putting other things aside you would care to marry so old a man, especially as I am not rich. Indeed, I feel it preposterous on my part, seeing what you are, to ask you to do such a thing. And yet I do. I believe in you, and for me, with God's blessing, we should be very happy together. I have led a lonely life, and have had little to do with women—once, many years ago, I was engaged, and the matter ended painfully, and that is all. But ever since I first saw you face in the drift five years and more ago, I have had thoughts of you, and I have learned to love you. Heaven only knows how much I should be ashamed to try to put it into words for they would sound foolish. All my life is wrapped up in you, and I feel as though, should you see me as more, I should never be a happy man again," and he paused and looked anxiously at her face, which was set and drawn as though she would not speak.

"I don't say 'yes' Colonel Quaritch," she answered, and in a tone that sounded him, it was so tender and so unfeigned to the words.

"I suppose," he stammered. "I suppose that you do not care for me? Of course, I have no right to expect that you would."

"As I have said that I cannot say 'yes,' Colonel Quaritch, do you not get that I had better leave this question unanswered?" he replied, and then, as he saw some notes which seemed to draw the heart out of his chest, he said,

"I do not understand," he went on. "Why?"

"Why?" she broke in with a bitter little laugh, "shall I tell you why? Because I am in power. Look," she went on, pointing to the stately towers and the broad lands beyond. "You see this place. I am security for it. I myself in my own power. Had it not been for me it would have been sold long ago after having descended in our family for all the time it had been upon the market, and sold for what it would fetch, and my old father would have been forced out to die, for it would have killed him. So you see I did what unfortunate women have often been driven to do, I sold myself body and soul; and I got a good price too—thirty thousand pounds!" and suddenly her burst into a flood of tears and began to weep as though her heart would break.

For a moment Harold Quarrich was too bewildered, not in the least understanding what Ida meant, and then he followed the impulse common to mankind in similar circumstances and took her in his arms. She did not resent the movement. Indeed she scarcely seemed to notice it, though to tell the truth, for a moment or two, which to the Colonel seemed the happiest moment, she burst into a flood of tears and began to weep as though her heart would break.

"As I have told you so much," she said, "I suppose that I had better tell you everything. I know that whatever the temptation, and she had great reason to be tempted, was 'underhand' circumstances—indeed, even if you believed that you were serving me in so doing—I can only trust you to never reveal to anybody, and above all to me, what now tell you."

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"I do not understand," he went on. "Why?"

"Why?" she answered, helplessly, putting up her hands as though to shield herself from a blow. "I know what you mean, but do not think too hardly of me if you can help it. It was not for myself. I would rather die than live with my hands tied, but I am a prisoner for my father and family too. I could not bear to think of the old place going to the hammer, and I did it all in a minute without consideration; but," and she set her face "even as things are, I believe I should do it again, because I think that no one woman has a right to destroy her family in order to be rich. If one of the two must go, let it be the woman. But don't think hardly of me for it," he added almost pleadingly, "that is if you can help it."

"I am not thinking of you," he answered grimly, "by Heaven I honour you for what you have done, for however much I may disagree with the act, it is a noble one. I am thinking of the man who could drive such a bargain with any woman. I say that you have promised to marry him, and so far as he is concerned, he has more than once, possibly for reasons of his own, given him the Colonels and Ida, who were, she said, about as much as you as tall as me."

He spoke clearly and with a voice of authority, but his bearing did not seem to jar upon Ida.

"I meant," she answered, hurriedly, "that I believe of course I do not know if I am right. I believe that Mr. Cossey is in some way entangled with the lady; in short, with Mrs. Quest, and that the question of whether or not he is to be considered as having done a wrong to her, is the question of whether or not he is to be considered as having done a wrong to her."

"Upon my word," said the Colonel, "upon my word the thing gets worse and worse. I never heard anything like it; and for money too. The thing is beyond me."

"At any rate," she answered, "there it is. And now, Colonel Quaritch, one word before I go in. It is difficult for me to speak without saying too much, but I do want you to understand how much I am grateful to you. I feel for what you have told me a slight pang of conscience. If in the end circumstances should allow, as I believe they will, I will do my best to make up for it."

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"No," he answered, "no, I think that I understand. But there is one thing that I am afraid of. I believe that Mr. Cossey is in some way entangled with the lady; in short, with Mrs. Quest, and that the question of whether or not he is to be considered as having done a wrong to her, is the question of whether or not he is to be considered as having done a wrong to her."

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"I am not thinking of you," he answered grimly, "by Heaven I honour you for what you have done, for however much I may disagree with the act, it is a noble one. I am thinking of the man who could drive such a bargain with any woman. I say that you have promised to marry him, and so far as he is concerned, he has more than once, possibly for reasons of his own, given him the Colonels and Ida, who were, she said, about as much as you as tall as me."

He spoke clearly and with a voice of authority, but his bearing did not seem to jar upon Ida.

"I meant," she answered, hurriedly, "that I believe of course I do not know if I am right. I believe that Mr. Cossey is in some way entangled with the lady; in short, with Mrs. Quest, and that the question of whether or not he is to be considered as having done a wrong to her, is the question of whether or not he is to be considered as having done a wrong to her."

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